

SPAWN.COM

SPAWN



Spaul
00
MCFARIANE
D
97
1000000000



98
DIGITAL
EDITION

98 | **THE TROUBLE WITH ANGELS**

DEDICATED TO
STANLEY ROSENBLATT

PLOT
BRIAN HOLGUIN
TODD McFARLANE

STORY
BRIAN HOLGUIN

PENCILS
GREG CAPULLO

INKS
DANNY MIKI

COPY EDITOR AND LETTERING
TOM ORZECOWSKI

COLOR
DAN KEMP
BRIAN HABERLIN

COVER
GREG CAPULLO
TODD McFARLANE
DANNY MIKI

PRESIDENT OF
ENTERTAINMENT
TERRY FITZGERALD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF PUBLISHING
BEAU SMITH

MANAGING EDITOR
MELANIE SIMMONS

ART DIRECTOR
BRENT ASHE

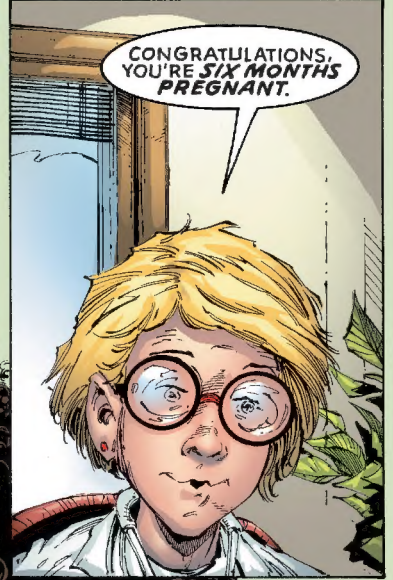
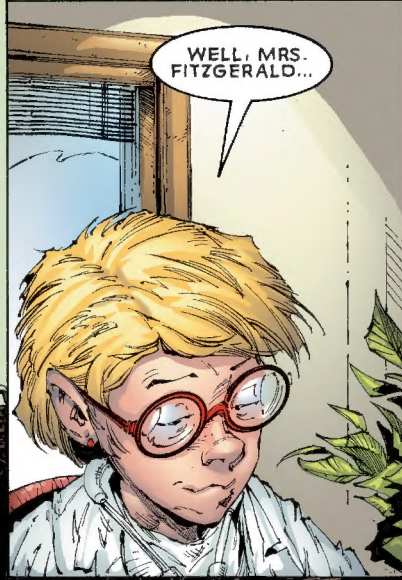
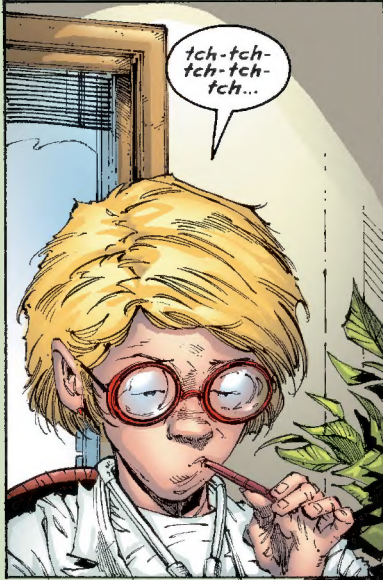
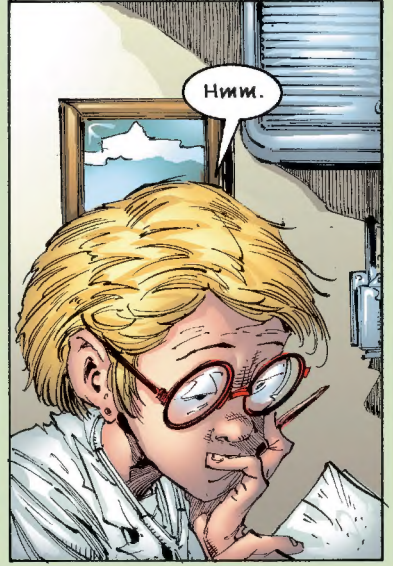
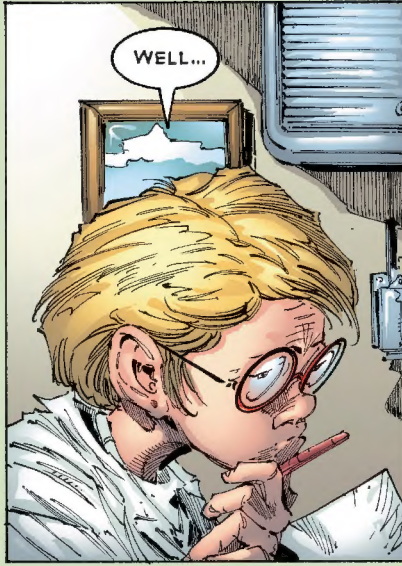
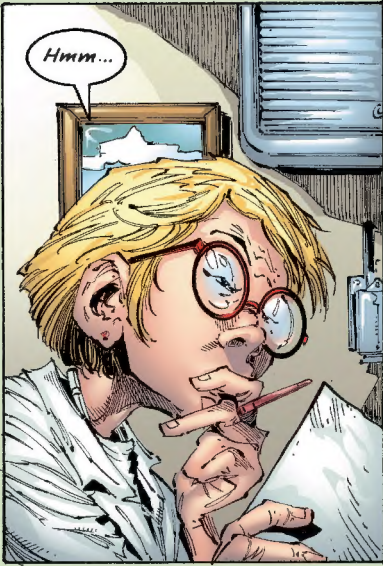
DESIGNERS
JOHN GALLAGHER
BOYD WILLIAMS

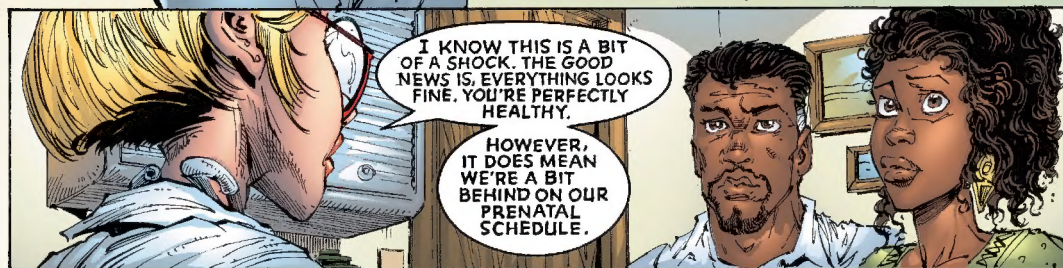
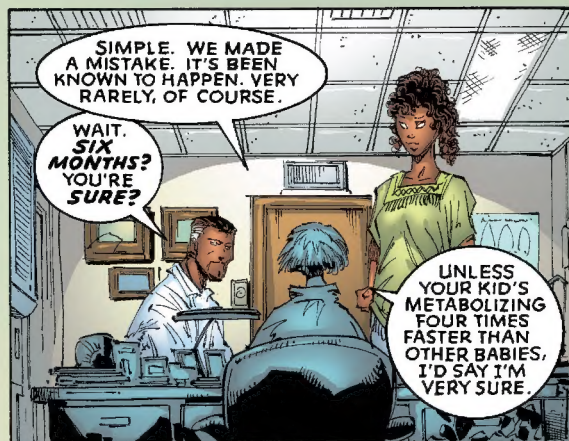
PUBLISHER FOR
IMAGE COMICS
JIM VALENTINO

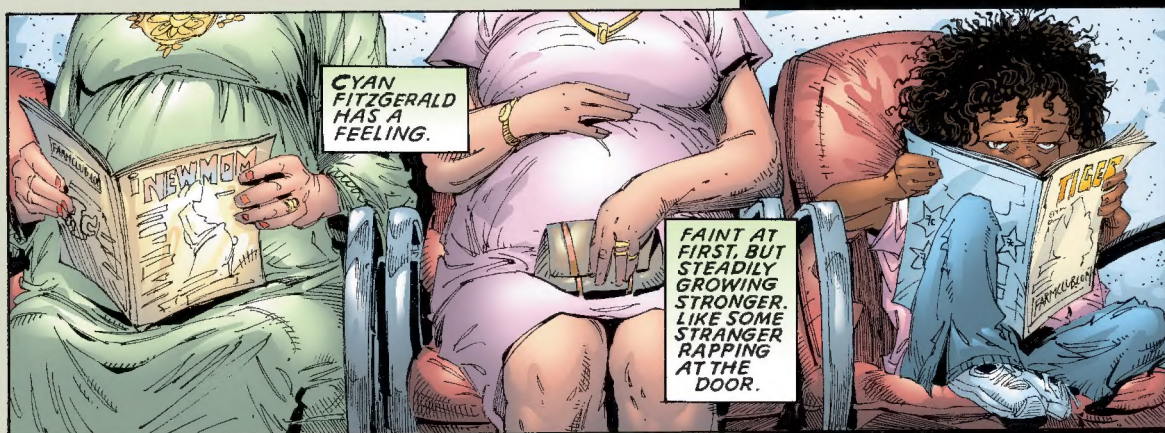
SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE

SPAWN 97 SUMMARY

Angela rescues Spawn from his impaled position and gives him the lowdown on their new mission even after she received orders not to act. Other angels debate the order, saying it is their duty, their purpose to fight while others claim it is their job to follow orders. Spawn and Angela find Cog and try to pry ancient information out of him, but he is vague and uncooperative. Later, after Spawn and Angela leave Cog, they argue and even get into a bit of a tussle. Angela is surprised to learn that Spawn still hasn't figured out his earthly role. Meanwhile, Urizen is leading people to their deaths like a monstrous Pied Piper.

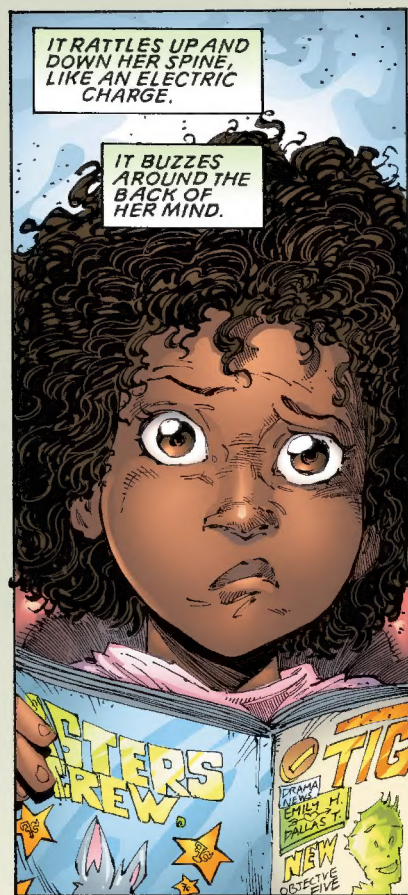






CYAN
FITZGERALD
HAS A
FEELING.

FAINT AT
FIRST, BUT
STEADILY
GROWING
STRONGER.
LIKE SOME
STRANGER
RAPPING
AT THE
DOOR.



IT RATTLES UP AND
DOWN HER SPINE,
LIKE AN ELECTRIC
CHARGE.

IT BUZZES
AROUND THE
BACK OF
HER MIND.



CYAN'S TOO
YOUNG TO
KNOW SUCH
WORDS AS
"DREAD" OR
"FOREBODING."

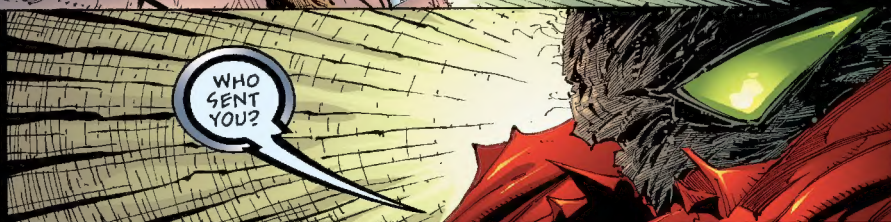


BUT SHE KNOWS SOME-
THING IS GOING TO
HAPPEN. AND SOON.

SOMETHING
BAD.



GUAPH!



I'D ANSWER HIM, IF I WERE YOU. I DON'T THINK YOU WANT TO SEE HIS BAD SIDE.



TELL HIM!

SHUT UP!

SOMEONE HIRED YOU TO RELEASE THE DARK GOD URIZEN, HOPING THAT WOULD JUMP-START THE APOCALYPSE.

WHO-EVER IT IS, IT SEEMS YOU'RE MORE AFRAID OF THEM THAN YOU ARE OF US.



SO THAT MEANS WHO-EVER SENT YOU IS UNSPEAKABLY POWERFUL, OR YOU TWO ARE UNBELIEVABLY STUPID.

MY HUNCH IS IT'S A LITTLE BIT OF BOTH.



WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME HERE, KIDDIES. SO UNLESS YOU'RE READY TO GIVE US THE NAME RIGHT NOW...

...SPAWN HERE IS GOING TO TAKE ONE OF YOU AND SHOVE YOU RATHER BRUTALLY UP THE OTHER ONE'S COLON.

I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO IMAGINE WHICH PART OF THAT EXPERIENCE IS MORE UNPLEASANT.

I TRUST WE'RE ALL ON THE SAME PAGE NOW.

ONE...

IT... IT WAS...

SHUT UP!

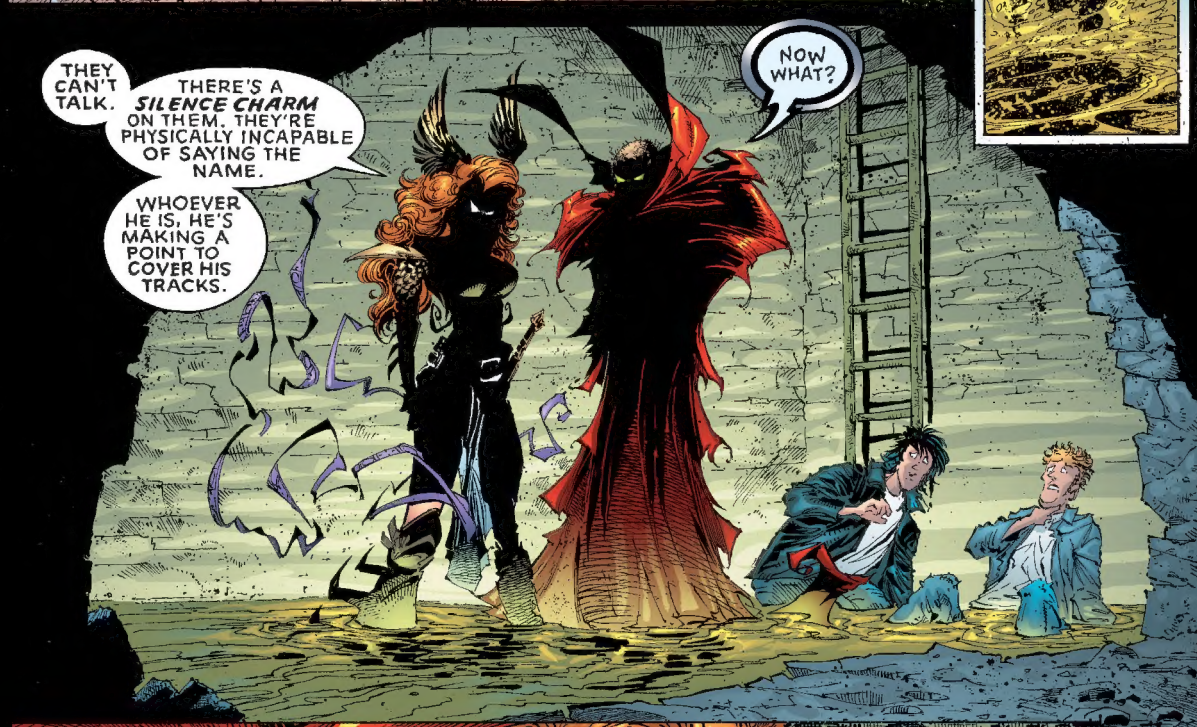
THEN YOU TELL HIM!

TWO...

ALL RIGHT! IT WAS--

MM-MMPH...

=PMMPF=



*THE AETHER, A CELESTIAL REALM
FLICKERING AT THE NEAR EDGE OF REALITY.*

PHALANXES OF
ANGELIC WARRIORS
SQUARE OFF,
THEIR NUMBERS
SPREAD ACROSS
THE INFINITE
HORIZONS.

THERE
IS NO
TIME FOR
DEBATE,
NOR IS
THERE
CALL.

ARE WE
NOT SWORN
TO DEFEND THE
TERRESTRIAL
SPHERE? DOES
NOT THAT OATH
BURN HOT
IN ALL OUR
BLOOD?

EARTH IS
IN PERIL
AND WE
MUST ACT.
IT IS THAT
SIMPLE.

NO! IT IS
NOT THAT
SIMPLE. THE
THRONE HAS
ORDERED US
TO STAND
DOWN.

A
RIDICULOUS
ORDER AND
ONE WE ARE
NOT BOUND
TO OBEY.

YOU SPEAK
OF MUTINY!
OF HERESY! OF
BLASPHEMY!



NO! I
SPEAK OF
HONOR!
I SPEAK OF
GLORY!

DON'T BE SO PRIDEFUL,
DOMINA, LEST YOU FORGET:
THE **ENEMY** WAS CAST OUT FOR
SUCH AN ACT AS THIS. IT IS NOT
OUR PLACE TO QUESTION
THE **THRONE**.

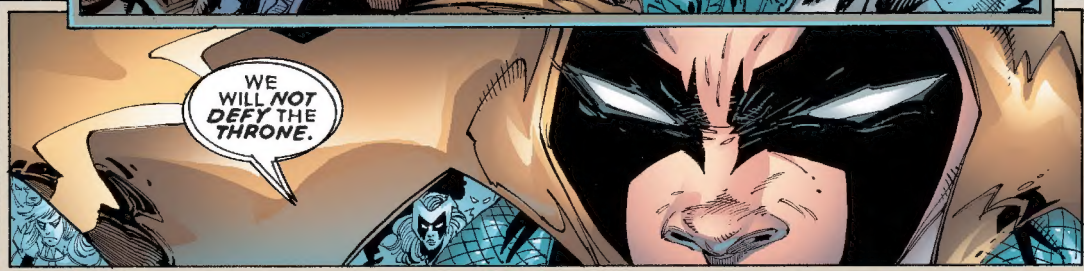
AND WHAT OF
EARTH? HOW WILL
YOU ANSWER WHEN SHE
IS A SMOLDERING HUSK?
THAT YOU WERE ONLY
FOLLOWING ORDERS?

I MUST
DO AS MY
CONSCIENCE
DICTATES.

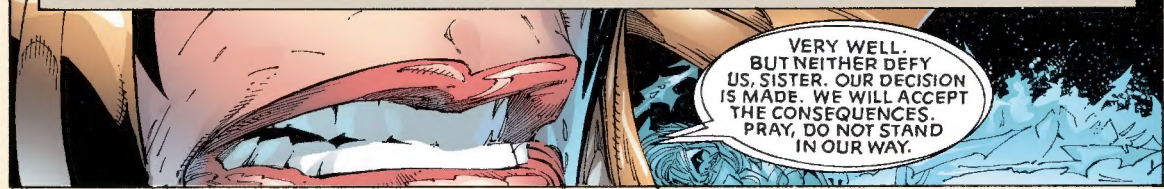


CONSCIENCE
IS FOR LESSER
CREATURES. A
TRUE ANGEL
KNOWS ONLY
DUTY.

CALL IT
DUTY THEN,
BUT WE WILL
NOT JOIN
YOU.

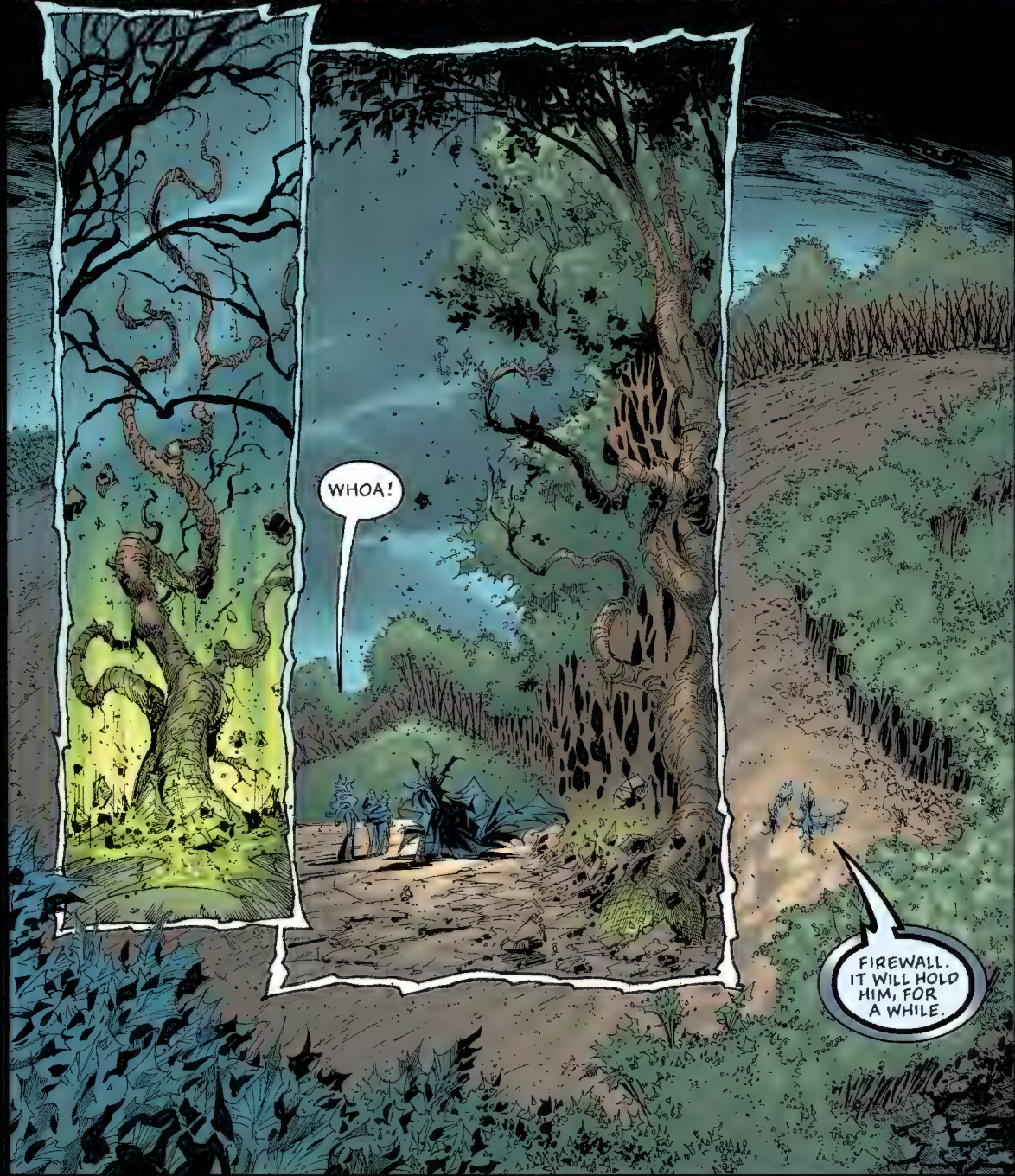


WE
WILL **NOT**
DEFY THE
THRONE.



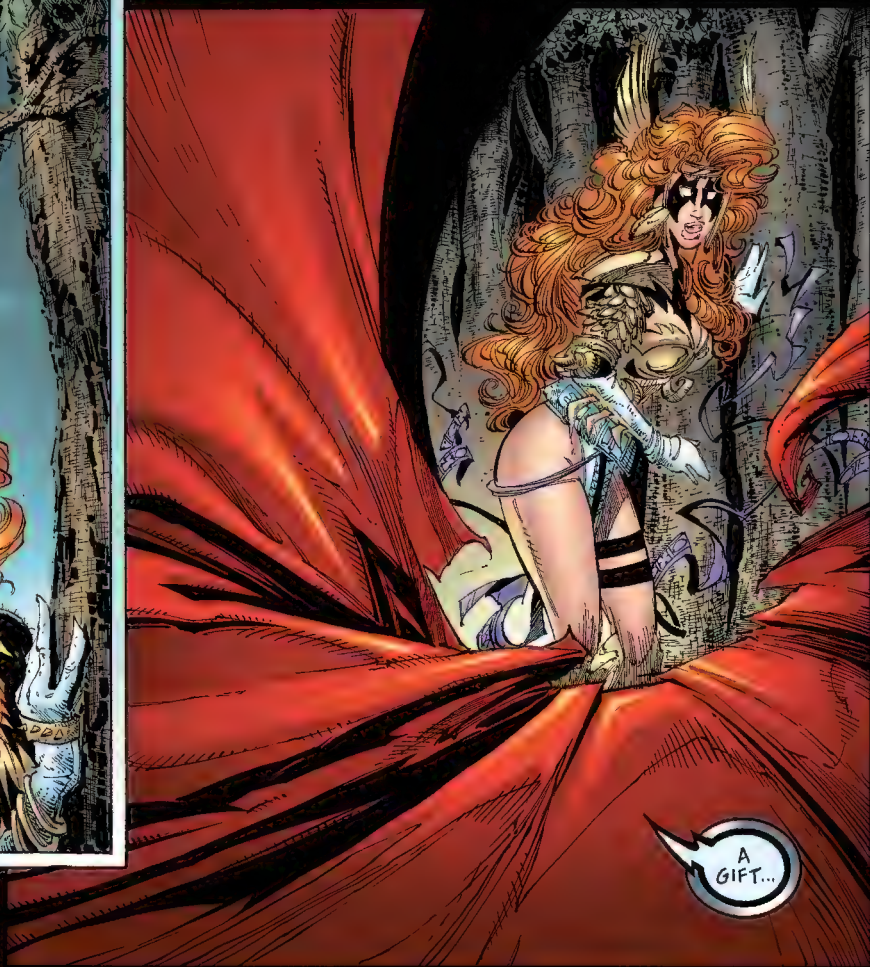
VERY WELL.
BUT NEITHER DEFY
US, SISTER. OUR DECISION
IS MADE. WE WILL ACCEPT
THE CONSEQUENCES.
PRAY, DO NOT STAND
IN OUR WAY.

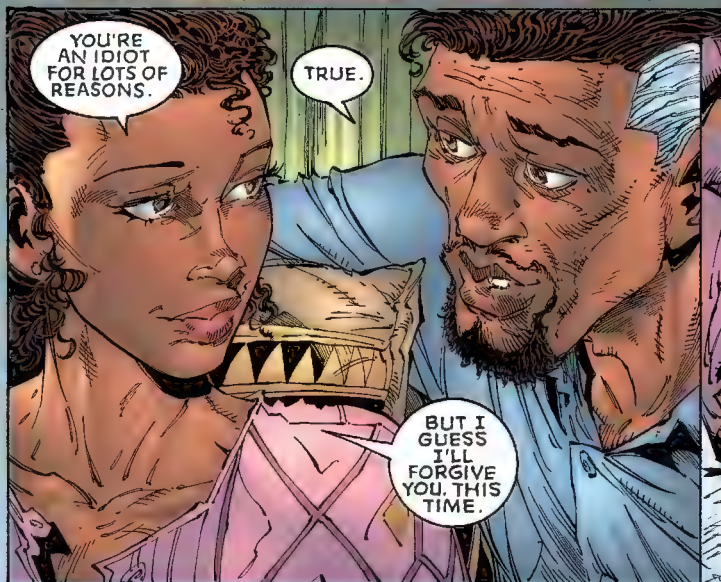
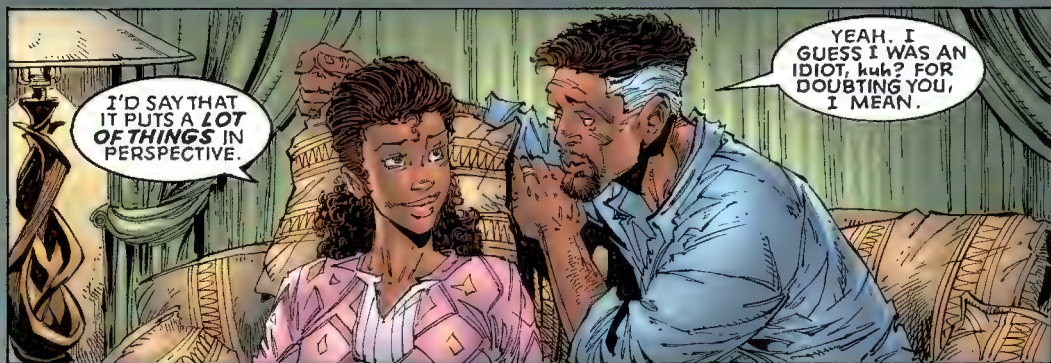




WHOA!

FIREWALL.
IT WILL HOLD
HIM, FOR
A WHILE.







HOW'D I EVER
GET SO LUCKY?

YOU GOT
ME *DRUNK*,
IF I RECALL
PROPERLY.

I ALWAYS
WAS A
SUCKER FOR
THE CLASSICS.
CAN I ASK YOU
SOMETHING?
FOR REAL?

SHOOT.



ARE YOU
EVER SORRY YOU'RE
MARRIED TO ME? I
MEAN THAT YOU WOUND
UP WITH *ME* INSTEAD...
INSTEAD OF...

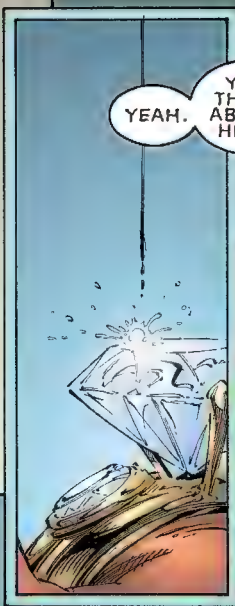
INSTEAD
OF *AL*?

YEAH.
I GUESS
THAT'S WHAT
I'M ASKING.
IT'S JUST...
SOMETIMES I
FEEL LIKE I'M
COMPETING
WITH A
GHOST,
Y'KNOW?



AM I
SORRY HE
DIED? GOD
YES. BUT AM
I SORRY I'M
WITH YOU?
NO. NEVER.
NOT FOR A
MOMENT.

YOU'VE
BEEN
NEEDING
TO HEAR
THAT FOR
A WHILE,
huh?

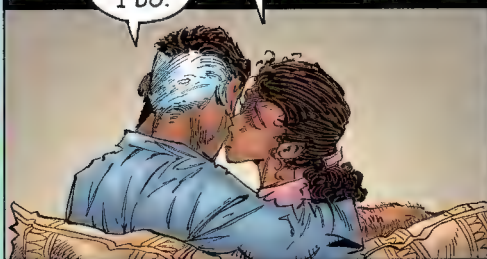


YEAH.

YOU
THINK
ABOUT
HIM?

TRUTH? I
DO. EVERY DAY.
BUT YOU KNOW
WHAT? SO *DO*
YOU.

YOU'RE
RIGHT.
I DO.



GUESS
WHAT, POOKIE.
WE'RE GOING
TO HAVE A
BRAND NEW
BROTHER!

OR A
SISTER,
MAYBE. I'M
NOT SURE.
WHAT DO YOU
THINK OF
THAT?

I THINK
THAT'S
LOVELY. I'M
SURE YOU WILL
MAKE A
WONDERFUL
BIG
SISTER.

HELLO,
CYAN.
THERE'S
A GOOD
GIRL.

AAAH!

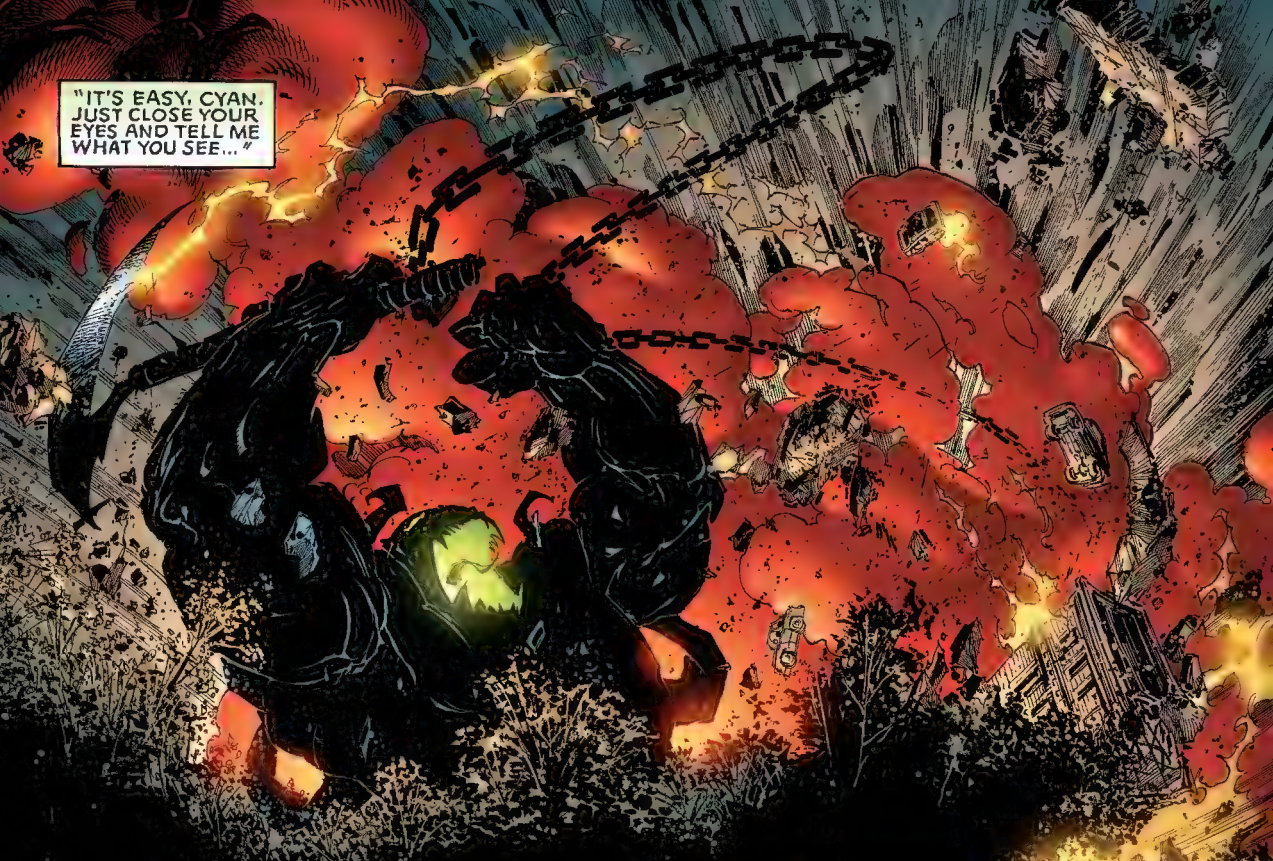
DO YOU
WANT TO
PLAY A
GAME?

I BROUGHT
YOU A NEW TOY
TO PLAY WITH. DO
YOU RECOGNIZE
HIM?

OF
COURSE YOU
DO. NOW, I
WANT YOU TO
TAKE THIS
DOLL...

... AND I
WANT YOU
TO SHOW ME
EXACTLY WHAT
YOU THINK IS
GOING TO
HAPPEN
TO HIM.

"IT'S EASY, CYAN.
JUST CLOSE YOUR
EYES AND TELL ME
WHAT YOU SEE..."



I GOTTA
ADMIT, YOU
SURE KNOW
HOW TO IMPRESS
A GIRL, SPAWN.
ANY IDEA
WHAT TO DO
NEXT?

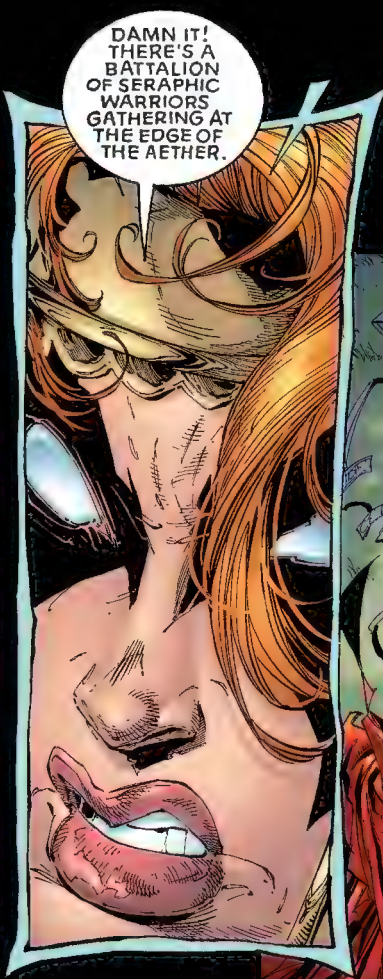
WE
FIGHT HIM.
AND WE
WIN.

SO...
LISTEN.
WE'RE
JUST
GONNA
WAIT RIGHT
OVER HERE,
OKAY?

YOU
SEEM
AWFULLY
CONFIDENT
THERE, BIG GUY.
YOU KNOW
SOMETHING
YOU'RE NOT
TELLING
ME?

HOLD ON--
I'M PICKING
UP SOMETHING
HERE.





DAMN IT!
THERE'S A
BATTALION
OF SERAPHIC
WARRIORS
GATHERING AT
THE EDGE OF
THE AETHER.




WHY'D
EVERYONE
HAVE TO PICK
TODAY
TO BE A
HERO?

I'VE
GOT
TO GO
STOP
THEM.



SPAWN,
WAIT HERE.
I'LL BE BACK
IN A FLASH.
DON'T MAKE
A MOVE
WITHOUT
ME.

I'M
SERIOUS.



LET'S GO.

HEY!

WAIT!
THE NICE
LADY
SAID TO
WAIT!



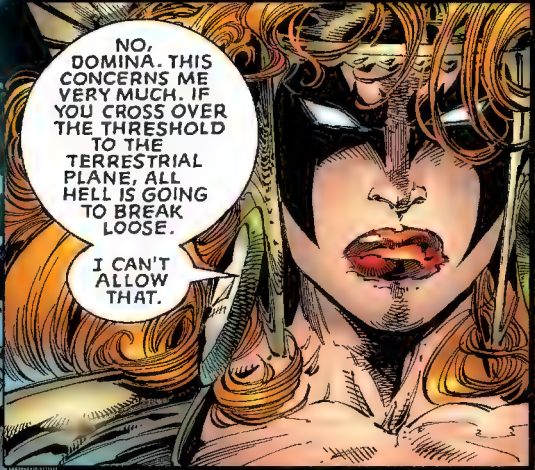
FOR THE
GLORY OF THE
KINGDOM...



WHO--?



THAT'S FAR
ENOUGH,
DOMINA!



NO,
DOMINA. THIS
CONCERNS ME
VERY MUCH. IF
YOU CROSS OVER
THE THRESHOLD
TO THE
TERRESTRIAL
PLANE, ALL
HELL IS GOING
TO BREAK
LOOSE.

I CAN'T
ALLOW
THAT.

ANGELA!
GET OUT OF
MY WAY! YOU
ARE NO LONGER
OUR *SISTER*.
THIS IS NO
CONCERN OF
YOURS!

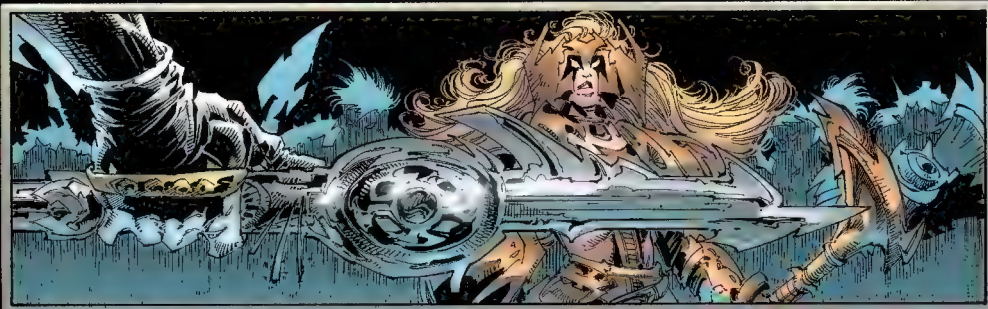


STAND
ASIDE,
ANGELA.
EARTH IS IN
PERIL, AND
WE MEAN TO
DEFEND
HER.


NO!
YOU WILL
DESTROY HER!
LISTEN TO ME!
ALL OF YOU! IT
IS A TRICK, A
SCHEME
OF THE
ENEMY.

INTERFERE AND
YOU WILL USHER IN
THE **FINAL WAR!**
YOU WILL START
ARMAGEDDON.

BUT I'M
NOT GOING
TO LET THAT
HAPPEN...




EVEN IF
I HAVE TO
CRIPPLE
EVERY **LAST**
ONE OF
YOU!




"DON'T BOTHER
TO CRY OUT, DEAR.
THEY CAN'T HEAR
YOU. THEY THINK
YOU'RE SLEEPING."

"MAYBE
YOU ARE.
MAYBE
THIS IS
ALL JUST
A BAD
DREAM."

"NOW, TELL
ME ABOUT
YOUR FRIEND.
TELL ME
ABOUT THE
SAD MAN."




"TELL ME WHAT
YOU THINK IS
GOING TO HAPPEN."



"DOES THE HERO
WIN THE DAY?"



"DOES
DARKNESS
TRIUMPH?"



"HOW IS
IT ALL
GOING
TO END?"



"WHO IS GOING TO WIN?"

TO BE
CONTINUED...





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE